1. (currently amended) An outer loop power control method performed in a radio communications system, the method comprising the steps of:

determining that a plurality of different services are being communicated;

performing a delay tolerance comparison with respect to the different services;

selecting the service having the least delay tolerant service;

providing an inner loop power control performance target of the selected service;

periodically calculating, for each of the services, a separate ~~change to the current~~ new inner power loop performance target value;

wherein performing a comparison with respect to the different services comprises comparing the resulting respective ~~current~~ inner power loop performance target ~~changes~~ values;

identifying the ~~largest~~ highest of the resulting respective ~~current~~ inner power loop performance target ~~changes~~ values from among the resulting respective inner loop power control performance target values; ~~and~~

~~changing the current inner power loop performance target by the amount of~~ using the identified ~~largest~~ highest resulting respective ~~current~~ inner power loop performance target ~~changes to arrive at~~ value as the inner loop power control performance target being provided;

determining that one of the resulting respective inner loop power control performance target values differs from the resulting respective inner loop power control performance target value of one or more of the other services by more than a predetermined threshold; and

responsive thereto, adjusting rate matching parameters of one or more of the services to bring the differing respective inner loop power control performance target value closer to the resulting respective inner loop power control performance target values of the one or more other services.

2-3. (cancelled).

4. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein selecting one of the services is also performed based upon a comparison of one or more quality of service characteristics or requirements of the services.

5. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein selecting one of the services comprises receiving an input from a user or operator specifying the service.

6. (cancelled).

7. (cancelled).

8. (currently amended) A method according to claim ~~7~~ 1, ~~further comprising:~~ wherein the determining step includes determining that one of the resulting respective inner loop power control performance target values differs from the resulting respective inner loop power control performance target value of one or more of the other services by more than a predetermined threshold for more than a predetermined time~~;~~

~~responsive thereto, adjusting rate matching parameters of one or more of the services to bring the differing respective inner loop power control performance target value closer to the resulting respective inner loop power control performance target values of the one or more other services~~.

9. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the inner loop power control performance target also includes a signal to interference ratio, SIR, target.

10. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the radio communication system is a cellular radio communications system.

11. (original) A method according to claim 10, wherein the cellular radio communications system is a UMTS system.

12. (cancelled).

13. (currently amended) An apparatus for performing an outer loop power control method in a radio communications system, comprising:

means for determining that a plurality of different services are being communicated;

means for performing a delay tolerance comparison with respect to the different services;

means for selecting the service having the least delay tolerant service;

means for providing an inner loop power control performance target of the selected service;

means for periodically calculating, for each of the services, a separate ~~change to the current~~ new inner power loop performance target value;

wherein the means for performing a comparison with respect to the different services comprises means for comparing the resulting respective ~~current~~ inner power loop performance target ~~changes~~ values;

means for identifying the ~~largest~~ highest of the resulting respective ~~current~~ inner power loop performance target ~~changes~~ values from among the resulting respective inner loop power control performance target values; ~~and~~

means for ~~changing the current inner power loop performance target by the amount of~~ using the identified ~~largest~~ highest resulting respective ~~current~~ inner power

loop performance target ~~changes to arrive at~~ value as the inner loop power control performance target being provided;

means for determining that one of the resulting respective inner loop power control performance target values differs from the resulting respective inner loop power control performance target value of one or more of the other services by more than a predetermined threshold; and

responsive thereto, means for adjusting rate matching parameters of one or more of the services to bring the differing respective inner loop power control performance target value closer to the resulting respective inner loop power control performance target values of the one or more other services.

14-15. (cancelled)

16. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the means for selecting one of the services also comprises means for basing the selection upon a comparison of one or more quality of service characteristics or requirements of the services.

17. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the means for selecting one of the services comprises means for receiving an input from a user or operator specifying the service.

18. (cancelled).

19. (cancelled).

20. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim ~~19~~ 13, ~~further comprising:~~ wherein the means for determining includes means for determining that one of the resulting respective inner loop power control performance target values differs from the resulting respective inner loop power control performance target value of one or more of the other services by more than a predetermined threshold for more than a predetermined time~~;~~

~~means for adjusting, responsive thereto, rate matching parameters of one or more of the services to bring the differing respective inner loop power control performance target value closer to the resulting respective inner loop power control performance target values of the one or more other services~~.

21. (previously presented) The Apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the inner loop power control performance target also includes a signal to interference ratio, SIR, target.

22-25. (cancelled).